

# Fruit and Vegetable Community Assessment



## ACCESS TO FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

This assessment will help you determine what is available in your community and what is needed to access quality fruits and vegetables. Take a walk through your community and fill out the *Fruit and Vegetable Community Assessment*. After you have completed the assessment, you can use the information to educate your friends, family members, neighbors, and local government officials about what is needed in your community to make it easier to get and eat more fruits and vegetables.

## INSTRUCTIONS

For each question, mark “yes” if a fruit and vegetable resource is available in your community; “yes, but there are some problems” if the fruit and vegetable resource is available in your community, but it needs some improvements; and “no” if it does not exist in your community. If your community has a fruit and vegetable resource, use the following rating scale to evaluate its overall condition. If your community does not have a fruit and vegetable resource, then skip to the next question and leave the rating scale blank.

Rating Scale:

1 = Awful   2 = Many problems   3 = Some problems   4 = Good   5 = Very good   6 = Excellent

### 1. Is there a grocery store in your community?

- ☐ Yes   ☐ No
- ☐ Yes, but there are some problems:  
(Mark all that apply)
  - ☐ The fruits and vegetables are too expensive
  - ☐ The fruits and vegetables are poor quality
  - ☐ The store does not have a good selection of fruits and vegetables
  - ☐ The store mostly sells fruits and vegetables that are unfamiliar to me
  - ☐ The store does not accept food stamps/ EBT or WIC checks
  - ☐ The store is not within walking distance of my home
  - ☐ I need a car to get to the store and I do not own one
  - ☐ I cannot take public transportation to the store
  - ☐ Other problems (please describe)

Rating: (circle one)

1   2   3   4   5   6

### 2. Is there a farmers' market in your community?

- ☐ Yes   ☐ No
- ☐ Yes, but there are some problems:  
(Mark all that apply)
  - ☐ The fruits and vegetables are too expensive
  - ☐ The fruits and vegetables are poor quality
  - ☐ The market does not have a good selection of fruits and vegetables
  - ☐ The market mostly sells fruits and vegetables that are unfamiliar to me
  - ☐ The market does not accept food stamps/ EBT or WIC checks
  - ☐ The market is not within walking distance of my home
  - ☐ I need a car to get to the market and I do not own one
  - ☐ I cannot take public transportation to the market
  - ☐ Other problems (please describe)

Rating: (circle one)

1   2   3   4   5   6

**3. Is there a flea market or swap meet in your community that sells fruits and vegetables?**

☐ Yes    ☐ No

☐ Yes, but there are some problems:

(Mark all that apply)

- ☐ The fruits and vegetables are too expensive
- ☐ The fruits and vegetables are poor quality
- ☐ The market/swap meet does not have a good selection of fruits and vegetables
- ☐ The market/swap meet mostly sells fruits and vegetables that are unfamiliar to me
- ☐ The market/swap meet does not accept food stamps/EBT or WIC checks
- ☐ The market/swap meet is not within walking distance of my home
- ☐ I need a car to get to the market/swap meet and I do not own one
- ☐ I cannot take public transportation to the market/swap meet
- ☐ Other problems (please describe)

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Rating: (circle one)

1      2      3      4      5      6

**4. Is there a convenience store in your community that sells fruits and vegetables?**

☐ Yes    ☐ No

☐ Yes, but there are some problems:

(Mark all that apply)

- ☐ The fruits and vegetables are too expensive
- ☐ The fruits and vegetables are poor quality
- ☐ The store does not have a good selection of fruits and vegetables
- ☐ The store mostly sells fruits and vegetables that are unfamiliar to me
- ☐ The store does not accept food stamps/EBT or WIC checks
- ☐ The store sells only fruit and vegetable juice
- ☐ The store is not within walking distance of my home
- ☐ I need a car to get to the store and I do not own one
- ☐ I cannot take public transportation to the store
- ☐ Other problems (please describe)

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Rating: (circle one)

1      2      3      4      5      6

**5. Is there a community garden where you can grow your own fruits and vegetables?**

☐ Yes    ☐ No

☐ Yes, but there are some problems:

(Mark all that apply)

- ☐ The garden does not have convenient hours
- ☐ The garden does not have any available space
- ☐ The garden is full of litter
- ☐ The soil in the garden is contaminated
- ☐ The garden is not located in a safe area
- ☐ The garden is not within walking distance of my home
- ☐ I need a car to get to the garden and I do not own one
- ☐ I cannot take public transportation to the garden
- ☐ Other problems (please describe)

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Rating: (circle one)

1      2      3      4      5      6

**6. Is there a food bank in your community?**

☐ Yes    ☐ No

☐ Yes, but there are some problems:

(Mark all that apply)

- ☐ The food bank does not have convenient hours
- ☐ The food bank does not offer an adequate amount of fruits and vegetables
- ☐ The food bank offers poor quality fruits and vegetables
- ☐ The food bank is not in a safe area
- ☐ The food bank is not within walking distance of my home
- ☐ I need a car to get to the food bank and I do not own one
- ☐ I cannot take public transportation to the food bank
- ☐ Other problems (please describe)

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Rating: (circle one)

1      2      3      4      5      6

**7. Are there restaurants in your community that have fruit and vegetable options on their menus?**

☐ Yes    ☐ No

☐ Yes, but there are some problems:

(Mark all that apply)

- ☐ The fruit and vegetable choices are limited
- ☐ The restaurants charge more for fruit and vegetable juice
- ☐ The restaurants charge more when fruits and vegetables are substituted for other side dishes
- ☐ The fruits and vegetables are poor quality
- ☐ The restaurants only serve canned fruits and vegetables
- ☐ The fruit and vegetable menu options are more expensive
- ☐ The only options for eating fruits and vegetables are the salad bars
- ☐ The restaurants are not within walking distance of my home
- ☐ I need a car to get to the restaurants and I do not own one
- ☐ I cannot take public transportation to the restaurants
- ☐ Other problems (please describe)

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Rating: (circle one)

1      2      3      4      5      6